

Can you find these @your library™?

- Licensed librarian
- Library support staff
- Students engaged in learning
- Welcoming atmosphere
- A book collection that appears current
- Recreational reading opportunities
- Brochures, bookmarks, and style sheets on display
- New materials on display
- Locations of materials clearly marked
- Sufficient, functional technology tools
- Space arranged for group and/or individual use
- Alternative scheduling options for the library
- Evidence of collaborative lesson plans
- Opportunities exist for student and teacher input into the library program
- Library mission statement visible

Key Resources

Virginia Department of Education Web pages

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/imtresources.html#librarymedia>

Guide for Developing and Evaluating School Library Media Programs, 6th Edition (Nebraska Educational Media Association, Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO, 2000)

***Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning** (American Library Association, Chicago, 1998)

Library Research Service

<http://www.lrs.org/>

Literacy Partners: A Principal's Guide To An Effective Library Media Program For the 21st Century (Alabama Department of Education, c. 1999)

Taxonomies of the School Library Media Program, 2nd edition (David V. Loertscher, Hi Willow Publishing, San Jose, CA, 2000)

Virginia Educational Media Association Web pages

<http://www.vema.gen.va.us>

**Need
Direction?**



Ask A Librarian.

**For additional
information contact:**

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A Guide for Middle School Principals

Academic Success @your library™

Powerful Partnerships:
Your School Librarian
and
YOU!

Come to the library
where **Information** is
SOL Power

Virginia Department of Education
Office of Instructional Media and Training
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120

Essential Elements for Middle School Library Programs

*For a successful program, discuss these elements with your librarian.**

Learning and Teaching

*Studies prove a direct correlation between student achievement on standardized tests and a dynamic library program.**

Goal: The library program is integral to Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) success.

Key Question:

- When is time provided for teachers and librarians to collaboratively plan lessons that support the SOL?

Goal: Students are actively involved in learning activities.

Key Question:

- How are students using available resources?

Goal: There is development of information literacy skills within the library program.

Key Question:

- Which learning activities teach users to find, evaluate and use information responsibly and effectively?

Goal: The collection is current and supportive of curriculum.

Key Questions:

- What print and electronic resources meet instructional needs?
- How routinely are these resources used?
- How much equipment is available to meet curriculum needs?
- Does the collection meet the Virginia Standards of Accreditation (SOA) criteria?

Goal: There is involvement in curriculum planning.

Key Question:

- How often is the librarian involved in meeting department heads, curriculum planning, school improvement, and other initiatives?

Information Access and Delivery

*Successful student-centered library programs depend on flexible access and collaboration with teachers.**

Goal: Students have access to information.

Key Questions:

- What strategies does the library program provide to help students and teachers use all types of information resources?
- Are electronic resources operational?
- How physically accessible are all library resources to students and teachers?

Goal: The climate is conducive to learning.

Key Question:

- How inviting is the library with regard to optimal lighting, noise level, and temperature?

Goal: There is flexible and equitable access to resources.

Key Questions:

- Which resources can be accessed from classrooms and from home?
- How consistently is the library available for SOL-based instructional use?

Goal: There is ongoing collection development and evaluation of the library program.

Key Questions:

- How and when are resources continually updated to meet the SOL?
- How do the teachers and librarian collaborate to provide a current and appropriate collection?

Goal: Legal and ethical use of resources is demonstrated.

Key Questions:

- What information does the library provide about resource citation and copyright issues?
- What and where are the written policies for selecting resources and handling challenged materials?

Program Administration

*Well-managed library programs require adequate staffing, funding, and administrative support.**

Goal: The library program supports the goals and improvement of the school.

Key Question:

- How often is the librarian included in goal setting and school improvement planning?

Goal: Professional and support staff are available in the library.

Key Question:

- Does the staffing meet the Virginia Standards of Accreditation (SOA)?

Goal: There is evidence of effective management of the library.

Key Questions:

- How are SOL test data, resource guides, and local curriculum guides used to develop the library program?
- What documentation such as circulation statistics, collection additions, library schedule/plan book, and number of classes served is available to support the library program?

Goal: There is strong administrative support.

Key Question:

- How does the building administration support the library's budget, staffing, and scheduling for a quality program?

Goal: Professional development is ongoing.

Key Question:

- What opportunities does the librarian have to participate in local, state, and national conferences?

Goal: There is ongoing staff development.

Key Question:

- What instruction does the library provide in the use of resources and technology using established best practices?